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READ IT FIRST IN THIS PAPER

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R. R. PRESIDENTS ARE SUMMONED TO WHITE HOUSE

Washington, Aug. 17.—President Wilson today laid his plans for averting the threatened railway strike before the employees' committee of 640, and, having found the managers' committee adamant to his proposal that they accept the eight hour day, he appealed to the railroad presidents and asked them to come to the White House for a conference.

There is every indication that if the railroad presidents sustain their managers' President Wilson will appeal finally to the financial powers which control the roads, for it is his purpose to deal with the ultimate authority before he gives up his effort.

The President's plan, which is expected to be formally accepted by the employees' committee at a meeting to be held at 9 o'clock tomorrow morning proposes:

An eight hour day as the basis for computing wages.

Regular pay at the eight hour day rate for overtime.

To refer to all collateral issues to a small commission, to be created by Congress on which the employees, the railroads and the public would be represented.

Acceptance of the proposal by the employees was forecast by expressions of their leaders after they left the President's conference. One of them declared: "The men would be fools not to accept it."

The attitude of the railroad presidents is not so clear. They began arriving tonight; all are expected to be here tomorrow. No one can say what will be the effect of an appeal such as a President of the United States, speaking in the name of the welfare of a nation, can make. But from such information as can be gathered, it appears that the railroad presidents, if the managers' committee understands them, are unalterably opposed to conceding the eight hour day or anything else out of hand, but are quite ready to arbitrate anything and everything in almost any form of arbitration upon which the employees and the committee may agree.

The railroad presidents, it is understood, justify their stand upon the broad ground of maintaining the principle of arbitration, which, if sacrificed in this instance, they intend to tell the President will be destroyed as a factor in the settlement of industrial disputes.

If the railroad presidents persist in that view and are supported by the financial powers, only the future can tell the outcome.

With the growing seriousness of the situation, Congress began paying more real attention to the crisis today, and there were many indications of intervention to prevent a nation-wide tie-up.

The general expectation is that the railroad officials, after seeing the President tomorrow, will ask that they be given several days, perhaps a week or more, to consider their course. It was emphasized by those of the officials who arrived tonight, however, that all of these plans were tentative. A score who came to New York on a special train went into session soon after their arrival with the managers' committee, and it was said that one of the possibilities under consideration was the preparation of a statement to be given out before their visit to the President, putting their position before the country.

While the railroad presidents would not make any predictions until they familiarize themselves with the situation here, there was more than one indication that it would take a strong appeal to induce them to reverse the attitude that has been taken by their representatives on the managers' committee. Asked whether the managers would be backed up by their decision, President Daniel E. Willard of the Baltimore & Ohio, said:

"I assume they will be."

Two plans are being considered for the make-up of the proposed commission in case the President's plan is accepted. The first provides for the appointment of all three members, if that should be the size of the commission, by the President, and the other for selection of one of the members by him, and of the other two by the railroad employers and employees, respectively. The plan as presented by the President to the employees was couched in general terms and did not go into details.

It is proposed that the commission be given power to summon witnesses and examine books in order to arrive at the true cost of the proposed plan to the railroads. Suggestions have been made that the commission be made permanent.

The conference between the President and the general committee of employees lasted about an hour. After the members of the committee had assembled in the East room they were introduced to the President by A. B.

Garretson, their spokesman. In a short speech, Mr. Garretson pointed out that the President's position in summoning representatives of a large number of workmen to the White House without others present for a discussion of a labor problem stood until paralleled. The employees remained undemonstrative during the remarks of Mr. Garretson and the President. At the conclusion of the meeting they formed in line and shook hands with Mr. Wilson. Many smiled broadly as they left the White House.

In his talk to the men the President explained his feelings that a strike must be avoided at any cost because of the disastrous effects on the country. He then said that after reviewing the situation thoroughly with the small committee representing the employers and employees, he had drawn up a plan which he hoped would be accepted by both.

The President declared he believed in the principle of the eight hour day, and that he thought the greater part of the people of the United States held a similar view. He also sought to impress on the men that he knew what it meant to work for a living. He said he had learned early in his life the trials of "making both ends meet."

Regarding the collateral issue the President admitted that he was at a loss to say how they should be settled. If the question of overtime and other problems were left to him, he said, he would have to ask for a commission to help him decide what would be fair. He added that in his belief there were enough honest men in the United States to decide these questions fairly to both sides and that they would do so if called upon.

At the conclusion of the President's talk the four brotherhood heads questioned him in order to bring out all the points for the benefit of the members of the general committee who have not been at the previous White House conferences.

If the men desired, the President said, they could remain in the room and decide whether they would approve or reject his proposition. He was willing, he said, to withdraw and let them come to a decision. Mr. Garretson thanked the President, but explained that he believed it would be best for the men to go to their hall for a meeting.

When they left, the men were invited to shake hands with the President. When about half of them had done so W. S. Carter, head of the engineers, noticed Mr. Wilson wincing occasionally as husky employees gripped his hand tightly.

"Just touch the President's hand, men," Mr. Carter said. "He is unaccustomed to your kind of grips."

The President smiled his appreciation of Carter's thoughtfulness. After they left the White House the men were in conference for two hours at their hall but decided to delay a formal decision until tomorrow's meeting.

The brotherhood men were pleased over the President's plan and everywhere the feeling existed that they would approve it overwhelmingly.

Every precaution was used to prevent any save members of the brotherhood from obtaining admission to the various meetings today. At the White House brotherhood men carefully identified every man in the meeting before the President spoke.

The President's decision to invite the railroad presidents to the White House was reached after he had become convinced that the committee of managers here would not consent to the eight hour day plan. The invitations were sent to 19 railroad presidents at first, but it was extended to all presidents "immediately accessible."

They will see the President at 11:30 a. m. tomorrow when he will explain to them every detail his plan, and make practically the same speech which he delivered to the employees today. Those who arrived tonight from New York included:

Frank Trumbull, chairman of the Chesapeake & Ohio; E. J. Pearson, vice-president New York, New Haven & Hartford; W. J. Harahan, president Seaboard Air Line; Daniel E. Willard, president Baltimore & Ohio; G. W. Stevens, president Chesapeake & Ohio; and A. H. Smith, president New York Central.

Fairfax Harrison, president of the Southern, joined the officials here and word was received that John H. Peyton, president of the Nashville, Chattanooga & St. Louis, had left Chattanooga for Washington and that L. E. Johnson, president of the Norfolk & Western, would arrive tomorrow from Roanoke. Other officials are expected tomorrow from Chicago.

William Jennings Bryan, it developed today, has sought unsuccessfully to settle the strike by the application of his temporary truce peace plan, having telegraphed pleas to heads of the various brotherhoods and the President asking that it be put into effect. It would provide for a truce of one year during which time the contentions of both sides to the controversy should be investigated thoroughly by a commission and a settlement attempted on his findings.

MANUFACTURES IN THE UNITED STATES FOR 1914.

Census Bureau's Summary Concerning the Country as Prepared by Chief Statistician.

Washington, D. C., August 17.—A preliminary statement of the general results of the census of manufactures for the United States has been issued by Director Sam. L. Rogers, of the Bureau of the Census, Department of Commerce. It consists of a summary comparing the figures for 1909 and 1914, by totals, prepared under the direction of Mr. William M. Stewart, chief statistician for manufactures.

The figures are preliminary and subject to such change and correction as may be found necessary from a further examination of the original reports.

The census of 1914, like that of 1909 with reference to manufactures, excluded the hand trades, the building trades, and the neighborhood industries, and took account only of establishments conducted under the factory system. In the last census also, as in that for 1909, statistics were not collected for establishments having products for the census year valued at less than \$500, except that reports were taken for establishments idle during a portion of the census year, or which began operations during that year, and whose products for such reason were valued at less than \$500.

The word "establishment" as used in the census reports may mean more than one mill or plant provided they are owned or controlled and operated by a single individual, partnership, corporation, or other owner or operator, and are located in the same town or city.

The reports were taken for the calendar year ending December 31, 1914, wherever the system of bookkeeping permitted figures for that period to be secured, but when the fiscal year of an establishment differed from the calendar year a report was obtained for its fiscal year falling most largely within the calendar year 1914.

Percentage of increase:
The population of the United States at the census of 1910 was 91,972,266, and it is estimated that it was 98,781,000 on July 1, 1914.

The summary shows increases at the census of 1914, as compared with that for 1909, for all items except proprietors and firm members, for which a slight decrease is shown.

In the order of their importance from a percentage standpoint, the increases for the several items rank as follows: Salaries, 37.2 per cent; capital, 23.7 per cent; salaried employees, 22 per cent; primary horsepower, 20.7 per cent; wages, 19 per cent; materials, 18.3 per cent; value of products, 17.3 per cent; value added by manufacture, 15.8 per cent; wage earners, 6.4 per cent; and number of establishments, 2.7 per cent.

Capital invested:
The capital invested, as reported in 1914, was \$22,790,880,000, a gain of \$4,362,610,000, or 23.7 per cent, over \$18,428,270,000 in 1909. The average capital per establishment was approximately \$83,000 in 1914 and \$69,000 in 1909. In this connection it should be stated that the inquiry contained in the census schedule calls for the total amount of capital, both owned and borrowed, invested in the business, but excludes the value of rented property, plant or equipment which was employed in the conduct of manufacturing enterprises. In the final bulletin and reports the rental paid for such property will be shown separately.

Cost of materials:
The cost of materials used was \$14,368,089,000 in 1914, as against \$12,142,791,000 in 1909, an increase of \$2,225,298,000, or 18.3 per cent. The average cost of materials per establishment was approximately \$52,000 in 1914 and \$45,000 in 1909. In addition as the component materials which enter into the products of the establishment for the census year there are included the cost of fuel, mill supplies, and rent of power and heat. The cost of materials, however, does not include unused materials and supplies bought either for speculation or for use during a subsequent period.

The census inquiry does not include amounts paid for miscellaneous expenses, such as rent of offices, royalties, insurance, ordinary repairs, traveling expenses, or allowance for depreciation.

Value of Products:
The value of products was \$24,246,323,000 in 1914 and \$20,672,052,000 in 1909, the increase being \$3,574,271,000, or 17.3 per cent. The average establishment was approximately \$88,000 in 1914 and \$77,000 in 1909.

The value of products represents their selling value or price at the plants as actually turned out by the factories during the census year and does not necessarily have any relation to the amount of sales for that year. The values under this head also include amounts received for work done on materials furnished by others.

Value Added by Manufacture:
The value added by manufacture represents the difference between the cost of materials used and the value of the products manufactured from them.

W. J. BRYAN TO BECOME CITIZEN OF THIS STATE?

(Anderson in Greensboro News.)

Washington, Aug. 17.—William Jennings Bryan, thrice candidate for President and for two years secretary of state in President Wilson's cabinet, is to give up his residence in Nebraska and establish citizenship at Asheville, according to Henry T. Smith of Omaha, Neb., who is spending a few days in Washington. Mr. Bryan, according to Mr. Smith, will leave Nebraska soon after the November election. Mr. Bryan is going to do some active campaigning for the party this fall and when that is over he will make plans to move to Asheville and establish his residence there.

In the opinion of Mr. Smith, Mr. Bryan will take an active part in North Carolina politics after he becomes a citizen of the State and may become a candidate for office, probably United States senator. It is not known whether Mr. Bryan has any such desire, but, according to Mr. Smith, this is being discussed in Nebraska.

"It is pretty well understood that Mr. Bryan is not going to live much longer in Nebraska," said Mr. Smith, at the Willard. "Mrs. Bryan, it is said, recently told friends that Fairview, the home of the Bryans at Lincoln, would be rented while Mr. Bryan is participating in the coming campaign, and that after the campaign it will be closed, perhaps forever. Friends of the Bryans declare they propose moving to North Carolina, where Mr. Bryan has an estate at Asheville, and that he aspires to the United States senate from that state. Bryan owns a farm in Texas, one in Florida, and a piece of land at Sunset mountain, overlooking the famous Grove inn at Asheville, as well as a pretty home in Nebraska. Some years ago it was reported that Mr. Bryan intended to move to Texas and run for the senate from that state. The former head of the Democratic party, if in belief, will earnestly support the President in the campaign. His influence in Nebraska is not as great as it was although he still has a large personal following. His defeat as a delegate to the recent convention was a bitter blow to him. But it is well known among his opponents that it was due to his action at Baltimore, when he bolted his instructions for Champ Clark, and Nebraskans will not stand for a bolt. Then, too, he attacked the 'twets' and this was not popular. All together, the Bryan influence in Nebraska is practically gone."

"Mr. Bryan became a resident of Nebraska in October, 1887. He was not a successful lawyer, although he practiced in Lincoln for some time before he was elected to Congress in 1890."

WILSON IS TO BE NOTIFIED SEPTEMBER 2nd.

Washington, August 17.—Formal notification to President Wilson of his nomination will take place September 2. Arrangements have been made for the President to go to Long Branch, N. J. for the ceremony.

The President has already completed his speech of acceptance. The notification speech will be made by Senator James.

OVER MILLION SHELLS FIRED EACH 24 HOURS

Financial Cost to Entente Allies of Offensive on West Front is Tremendously High.

Headquarters of German Army Group on the Somme Front, Saturday, Aug. 12, via Berlin to London, Aug. 17.—The expenditure of artillery ammunition by the entente allies on this front has reached a prodigious volume, often striking the rate of 32 shells a second during drum fire. Not infrequently along the entire Somme front nearly 90,000 shells have been dropped in an hour, while a conservative estimate puts the average for the 24 hours period at more than 1,000,000 shells.

With this rate of fire the financial cost of the offensive is naturally high. What the approximate losses in human material amount to it is difficult to estimate. That the losses of the British in certain actions have been frightfully affirmed by German officers, who, on the other hand, frankly admit that their own losses have been far from light, though all insist that they were not nearly as heavy as the British.

The German expenditure in ammunition has been much lighter than that of the British for the reason that the German artillery concentrated its efforts on special objects, such as trenches, transports and reserve bases, while the British often screen off whole sectors, taking nightly under their fire all the villages and roads behind the German lines within the range of their guns.

STATE BANKERS AGREE THAT EXCHANGE ORDER WAS AS CLAUDE KITCHIN SAID.

One of Them Yarns to Hurl McAdoo Into the Deep.—For Uniform Exchange, but Association Goes on Record Commending Simmons, Overman and Kitchin.

(W. T. Bost in Greensboro News, 16.)
Raleigh, Aug. 16.—Banker Billie Sanders, of Smithfield, wanted to throw Billie McAdoo in the middle of the Atlantic ocean today, but the North Carolina Bankers' association in special session this morning compromised upon a rousing vote of commendation for Simmons, Overman and Kitchin for their opposition to Albert Burleson's order making post offices clearing houses. They resolved, too, for uniform exchange.

The special meeting of the bankers brought a great number here. Quite a large number could not come, but sent proxies and every sentiment expressed was in sympathy with Congressman Kitchin's characterization of Burleson's order "outrageous." The name of Kitchin was conjuring. The first time it was mentioned the applause was spirited and each time thereafter it caused shuffling of the feet.

President W. S. Blakeney of Monroe, presided and stated the purposes of the meeting. He declared that the motive which impelled him to call the money-men here was the same that actuates a governor in calling for extraordinary session of the general assembly. The president of the bankers is a capital speaker. He talks just like money, uses few needless words and is accepted at par. When he told how Claude Kitchin "promptly took up the gauntlet thrown down by Mr. Burleson," the bankers applauded heartily.

Mr. Blakeney reminded the bankers that despite the temporary victory of Mr. Kitchin and those beneficiary of his order, the order may be rescinded. "When the election is over and the smoke of battle has cleared away," he said, "we may hear again from this order." He knew that North Carolina is but one of the sisters in the nation, but one state making protest could do great good.

"I am in sympathy with the federal reserve act," he continued, "and believe it is a great piece of legislation, the crowning achievement of the administration. In my opinion it prevents panics and distributes money among the several federal banks rather than the concentration of our funds in one place. It gives us a flexible currency. It is, as I said, the crowning glory of the administration."

"I think the trouble has been that we have been punished for the sins of the few. Some banks have been guilty of extortionate rates of exchange. We ought to have a maximum and a uniform exchange. We ought to have a law similar to that in Mississippi and I am going to tell some phases of it later on."

Mr. Blakeney declared that all the representatives from the state are opposed to the order and letters from Senators Simmons and Overman were read. Two were read from Claude Kitchin and both caused applause. The Kitchin letter was characteristic. He told the state bankers that they had stirred the federal reserve board up and that it appeared to have small sympathy for the small banks, much feeling for the big fellows.

President Blakeney then read a set of resolutions that touched upon the several things that he thought should be discussed by the association and later ten members of the association, apportioned according to congressional districts, albeit, not all represented geographically the ten were appointed to draft resolutions. They retired while the association debated other matters.

J. C. Evans of Smithfield, offered a resolution which would have transmitted to Claude Kitchin demanding the unconditional repeal of the executive session of the federal reserve act "and then we will see what the Democrats are next to do," he said.

Billie Sanders then spoke. He had heard that McAdoo had told people about the small banks and the exchange and McAdoo declared that he will reach the country banks if he had to collect checks through the post-office. This didn't please the Smithfield man, who is mixed up with about six banks. "So far as I am concerned, I am in favor of throwing him in the middle of the Atlantic ocean," Mr. Sanders said.

The committee went out to prepare resolutions and the remaining members sat in the rooms of the chamber of commerce on the tenth floor of the Commercial National bank building and there in a mile-high altitude discussed things coolly.

It was agreed that the banks have brought much of the trouble upon themselves. They have charged all sorts of exchange and been unquestionably extortionate. They have not been uniform. They have gone any old way and banks that have been able to collect big fees for exchange have been

COMPULSORY EDUCATION MADE LAW IN GEORGIA

Annual Session of the State Legislature Ends 50 Days Session With Enactment of Few Laws.

Atlanta, Ga., Aug. 17.—The annual session of the Georgia legislature, which did its 50 days work during an active gubernatorial campaign, ended tonight with few bills of more than local interest passed. The enactment of a compulsory education bill probably has been the subject of more comment than any other general measure debated at this session.

The right to practice law in Georgia was given to women after a long fight, but the equal suffrage question died in a house committee and in the senate was set for committee hearing August 17—one day after the legislature was forced to adjourn by law.

The senate "anti-lynch" law, provided that sheriffs of counties wherein lynchings took place could be immediately removed by the governor, was tabled in the house by a vote of 113 to 29. After much argument the liquor tax measure passed. Every shipment is to be taxed 10 cents if the governor signs the bill. The ordinary of each county is to keep the first \$600 obtained and the balance goes into the state treasury.

At the earnest appeal of Governor Harris a bill providing six judges instead of three for the court of appeals was passed.

A highway commission bill giving doubtful authority in the minds of many lawyers who have studied its provisions, was passed. It was pointed out that Georgia was one of only three states in the union not having a highway commission.

The compulsory education bill provides that children shall attend school at least four months in each year and its details were so worked out, its proponents believe, to circumvent certain race conditions which have had to be overcome in making compulsory education bills in the south meet the desired end.

Another bill passed gives state grand juries the right to investigate any eulogemous institution in the State. Opponents of the measure openly charged on the floor of the house that it was "directed at Catholic institutions."

CRUSHERS FINDING MARKET

Hundred Thousand Bushels of N. C. Crop Sold Last Year.

Raleigh, N. C., Aug. 16.—Last year in Eastern North Carolina was begun a new industry in the utilization of the soybean by the cotton oil mills of the section. This was the first time in America that oil had been crushed from domestic beans on a commercial scale. The North Carolina mills during the fall, winter and spring utilized something like 100,000 bushels of beans. These efforts on the part of the North Carolina oil mills has attracted wide attention not only from soap, paint, varnish, glycerine and special invalid food manufacturers in different parts of the country, but a large number of the State Cotton Seed Crushers' Association of the South have decided to promote the industry in their respective States.

That the industry will grow from year to year and thereby bring money from another source to the state, and at the same time give permanent improvements to the soil is what Mr. C. B. Williams, of the North Carolina Experiment Station, believes. Mr. Williams has written to quite a number of manufacturers in the North asking what disposal could be made of the North Carolina output, and every reply has lent encouragement to the belief that the industry would soon be a large one. One firm writes: "The oil is more satisfactory in connection with the manufacture of paints and varnishes than either linseed or cotton seed oil, the most important reason for this being that the soy bean oil possesses better drying qualities. It is more rapidly manipulated so that proper drying of paints and varnishes in which it has been used will result."

Mr. Williams has heard from a number of soap manufacturers, all of whom claim that there is no reason why the soy bean oil cannot be utilized in the manufacture of sweet scented soaps.

Aside from their commercial value soy beans possess the power of gathering nitrogen and depositing it in the soil. The vines when cut with a disc harrow and plowed under yield even a greater fertilizing benefit. The soy bean is better adapted to all parts of the State than is the cowpea. It is not so easily killed by frost, but also can be grown in a wider range of climatic and soil conditions.

Mr. Williams says that as a commercial crop soy beans compare favorably with other money crops, although the market has not been so well established. But he believes that there is a future of the soy bean as a commercial crop, and also as a soil improver.

A dollar left at the Commonwealth office for subscription will get you twice as much reading as you can get from any other paper in the county.

GERMANS FAIL TO BEND BACK BRITISH LINES

For the first time in weeks no change of importance was reported in any theatre of the war Thursday. The most violent fighting took place on the western end of the British salient on the Somme. Six times the Germans advanced in force in a desperate effort to bend back the British lines north west of Pozieres. London reports that all of these assaults were repulsed with heavy losses and that the British in turn captured about 100 yards of trenches northwest of Basentin.

The Germans, contrary to their usual practice, have so far made no attempt to deliver a counter-attack in the region where the French and British claim to have captured nearly three miles of trenches on Wednesday. The French are busily consolidating their gains and report no action of importance on the section of their front, including the Verdun region.

Some mystery exists as to the situation on the eastern front. For two consecutive days the Russians have confined themselves to brief statements that nothing of importance had occurred. The Austrian and German war offices have been almost equally uncommunicative. The only fighting mentioned by Vienna was the repulse of Russian attacks on the lines of Gen. von Boehm-Ermolli, who is in command of the Teutonic forces retiring from the Tarnopol front. Berlin reports the repulse of Russian attacks north of Brody.

The hull in the Italian operations against Trieste is unofficially explained from Rome as due to General Cadorna's desire to straighten his lines before proceeding with a general offensive against the great Austrian seaport. Austrian seaplanes have once more raided Venice, but Rome says they caused only slight damage.

PICNIC AT RIVER TODAY.
The annual picnic at Shields' Commissary is being held today. A large crowd from town went out this morning to enjoy a day and partake of the excellent dinner which is always served there.

COMMISSION AWARDED MOST OF CONTRACTS FOR BLDG. MATERIAL.

As the Commonwealth went to press with Tuesday's paper the commission in charge of letting the contracts for material for the construction of the town's water and sewer system, were still engaged in examining bids. In addition to those reported Tuesday, the following material was contracted for:

R. D. Cole Manufacturing Company, Newnan, Ga., for tower tank, \$3,759.
Platt Iron Works, Dayton, Ohio, two fire pumps, \$2,025 for both.
Deming Company, Salem, Ohio, one triplex pump, \$3,082.
General Electric Co., through L. R. Mills, local agent, motor and controller \$318.33.

Contracts for sewer pipe, castings, hydrants, brick, etc., has not yet been let, but they will be bought in ample time for the work.

All contracts are f. o. b. Scotland Neck. A part of the McCrory Co.'s equipment is expected here most any day now.

Contrary to the various estimations it will require at least five months in which to complete the system, according to those in position to know.

TWENTY COLUMNS.

Old Colonel Linotype has made it possible for the Commonwealth to present its readers today with more than 20 columns of good reading matter.

TRAIN CREEPS INTO LENOIR; IS HAILED WITH DELIGHT

Lenoir, Aug. 17.—The first train into Lenoir since Saturday, the 14 of July, came creeping in today from Hickory over the Carolina and Northwestern railway. A large per cent of the population of the town turned out to welcome it.

ITALIAN DREADNAUGHT BLEW-UP IN HARBOR.

Paris, Aug. 17.—The Italian dreadnaught Leonardo-Da-Vinci caught fire and blew up in the harbor of Taranto, Italy, and 300 of her crew were drowned, says a Turin dispatch to a local newspaper. The date of the disaster is given as a day in August.

The fire, says the Dispatch, was discovered in the dreadnaught's kitchen and spread rapidly. The captain immediately ordered the magazines flooded, in an effort to save the battleship but one magazine exploded before this could be done. The vessel was turned over on its side and a large number of its crew were thrown into the sea. It was believed the battleship could be righted and refloated. The dreadnaught was a 22,000 ton vessel.